Note 8 - Spearing Ban on Northern Pike & Muskellunge Lakes

The following lakes are closed to all spearing except as noted: all waters open to spearing carp May 1 – Aug. 15. *Lakes where Northern Pike may be speared January 1 – February 28. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p. 12), Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (p. 13) and Exceptions to General Regulations by County (p. 14-18).

Lakes closed to spearing (except carp may be speared May 1 – August 15):

ALLEGAN: Osterhout L.
ALPENA: Fletcher Floodwaters

BARRY: Clear, Crooked, Fish, Lower Lks., and Thornapple L. (No spearing from

McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.)

CHEBOYGAN: Cornwall Impoundment and

*Tower Pond

CHIPPEWA: Caribou L. CLARE: Budd L. CLINTON: Ovid L. DELTA: *Dana L.

IRON: Cable, Emily, Porter, and Stanley Lks. *Brule, *Chicagon, *Chief Edwards, *Paint,

*Paint Pond, and *Violet Lks. **KALAMAZOO:** Austin, Crooked, and

Eagle (Texas Twp.) Lks. **KENT:** Campau and Murray Lks.

KEWEENAW: Gratiot L.

LAKE: Big Star L. LAPEER: Nepessing L. LENAWEE: L. Hudson

LIVINGSTON: Whitmore and Woodland Lks.

MACKINAC: Brevport L. MARQUETTE: Fish L.

MONTMORENCY: Fletcher Floodwaters and

West Twin Lks. MUSKEGON: Mona L.

OAKLAND: Heron and Tipsico Lks. **OTSEGO:** Big Bear and Otsego Lks.

OTTAWA: L. Macatawa

SCHOOLCRAFT: Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks. ST. JOSEPH: Long L. (Fabius Twp. T6S, R12W, sec 7) VAN BUREN: Bankson L., Brownwood L., and Round L. (Keeler Twp. T4S, R16W, Sec. 13)

WASHTENAW: Whitmore L.

Table 3 Lake Sturgeon

Hook & Line only (*Except Black L. Cheboygan Co., special spearing season)

| Open Season | Gear, Harvest, and Size Restrictions | |
|---|--|--------------|
| July 16 - Nov. 30 Great Lakes and connecting waters (except L. St. Clair and St. Clair R.), all inland waters except Otsego L. & Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) | Catch and release only No possession | |
| July 16 - Sept. 30 L. St. Clair and St. Clair R. | Between 42" - 50". All fish less than 42" and greater than 50" must be released immediately. (Note 1) | 1 per season |
| July 16 - Mar. 15 Otsego L. (Otsego Co.) | 50" minimum (Note 1) | 1 per season |
| Sept. 3 - Nov. 1 All MI-WI boundary waters | 50" minimum (Note 1, See Table 6) | 1 per season |
| First Saturday in Feb. to Sunday following the second Saturday Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) | Lottery Draw Only - 5 fish quota for the season Tags will be issued by random drawing. Contact DNR Gaylord office 989-732-3541 for details | |

*Spearing for lake sturgeon is prohibited, except in Black L. (Cheboygan Co.) under special lottery permit.

Note1: A locking harvest tag must be obtained prior to fishing. Successful anglers must tag the fish and register it immediately (within 24 hrs.) at a designated registration station, check online for locations.

Table 4 General Netting Regulations

The following gear restrictions apply for the species, seasons and water listed below:

- Hand Nets may be of any circumference and handle length.
- Dip Nets may not exceed 9 x 9 feet square nor be erected or fished within 100 feet of any dam.
- Seines may only be used for minnows except under a scientific collector's permit issued by the DNR.
 FO-229 is available from DNR Operations Service Centers (page 24).

| Species | Seasons | Nets and Waters |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Bowfin Carp Gar Smelt Suckers | Mar. 1 - May 31 | Hand Nets: South of M-72 Great Lakes, L. St. Clair, St. Clair R., and Detroit R.,and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229) |
| | April 1 - May 31 | Hand Nets: North of M-72 (including Upper Peninsula) Great Lakes, St. Marys R. and all tributaries from the mouth to 1/2 mile upstream. Selected inland streams (list FO-229) |
| | April 1 - May 31 | Dip Nets: All Lower Peninsula non-trout streams |
| | May 1 - May 31 | Dip Nets: All Upper Peninsula non-trout streams |
| Burbot | Dec. 15 - end of Feb. | Hoop Nets: Permit required from DNR office. Peshekee R. (Marquette Co.); AuTrain R. (Alger Co.) from AuTrain L. to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Baraga Co.) from M-38 bridge to mouth; Sturgeon R. (Houghton Co.) |